ARKANSAS WEATHER AND CROP PROGRESS



August 25, 2003

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE/USDA

10800 Financial Centre Parkway Suite 110 Little Rock, AR 72211 (501) 228-9926 http://www.nass.usda.gov/ar

REPORTING FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 24 OF THE 2003 CROP YEAR

RELEASED: August 25, 3PM - The majority of the state has experienced hot, dry weather again this week. Few areas received scattered showers, however most farmers are in need of rain. There were 7 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture supplies were 18% very short, 55% short, 26% adequate, and 1% surplus.

CROPS: Field work slowed down this week due to heat and lack of moisture. Irrigating soybeans and cotton, draining rice, scouting for insects and diseases, and preparing equipment for harvests have been the major events of the week. Farmers are applying fungicides and insecticides where needed. Draining has begun in rice fields, and harvest has begun for soybeans. Watermelon harvest is drawing to an end, while apples are beginning to be harvested.

LIVESTOCK: Livestock were reported to be in good condition. In the northwest portion of the state, pastures are declining. Hay harvesting has slowed down. Producers are preparing to plant fall forages.

Crop Progress and Conditions

	Condition %								
CROP Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
CORN					1	5	29	45	20
Dent	100	95	94	97*					
Matured	86	61	70	82*					
Harvested	22	4	11	24					
SOYBEANS					4	9	28	45	14
Setting Pods	91	74	87	82					
Yellowing	13	0	11	6					
Shedding	7	0	4	7					
SORGHUM					0	7	38	48	12
Heading	100	99	100	100					
Turning Color	99	91	90	86					
Mature	63	n/a	47	36					
Harvested	18	n/a	n/a	10					
COTTON					1	5	33	42	19
Setting Bolls	100	98	100	100					
Opening Bolls	10	3	6	20					
RICE					2	5	28	43	22
Headed	98	92	97	94					
Harvested	4	2	1	2					
HAY - OTHER					0	25	29	41	5
HAY - ALFALFA					0	5	26	67	2
PASTURE & RANGE .					7	18	38	30	7

^{*}Corn stages have been updated in the past 5 years. Corn Dented and Matured is a 3 year average.

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE Benjamin F. Klugh, Jr. State Statistician

<COOPERATING>

U. Of A. COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AGRI. ECONOMICS & RURAL SOCIOLOGY Dr. Mark Cochran - Head UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE Dr. Ivory W. Lyles - Director

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Meteorologist in Charge

Renee Fair

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SOIL MOISTURE SUPPLIES

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK ENDING:

August 24, 2003. Temperatures were above normal. Scattered showers over most areas of the state. Hot Springs recorded the high temperature of 104° and Calico Rock recorded the low temperature of 67°. Precipitation ranged from a high of 2.10 inches at Conway to 0.00 inches at several reporting stations.

*No map available due to technical difficulties.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION WEEK ENDING: August 24, 2003

DISTRICT		MPERATUR		RAINFALL						
AND			DEP	WEEK	CURR		JAN	-JUL		
STATION	HIGH	\mathbf{LOW}	FROM	ENDING	AUG	AUG				
			NORM	AUG 24	ACCUM.	NORMAL	2003	NORMAL		
1 Fayetteville	98	68	6	0.71	1.37	3.00	22.28	26.51		
Harrison	99	69	7	0.00	0.23	3.41	20.80	25.67		
2 Calico Rock	97	67	6	0.20	4.04	2.93	22.91	26.44		
Gilbert	98	69	6	0.38	0.95	2.81	23.93	25.79		
Greers Ferry	98	68	6	0.19	0.99	2.90	36.37	29.25		
Mountain Home	100	70	8	0.15	1.91	2.59	25.72	25.92		
3 Batesville	97	69	5	0.30	3.54	3.08	40.32	27.37		
Jonesboro	97	71	4	0.29	1.80	2.67	34.98	27.23		
Keiser	98	70	5	0.13	0.53	2.67	32.74	30.43		
Newport	99	72	5	1.42	1.77	2.90	39.45	28.47		
4 Booneville	102	73	4	0.00	0.26	2.34	21.22	28.16		
Clarksville	101	74	9	0.00	1.03	2.58	23.59	26.95		
Dardanelle	101	70	7	0.66	1.22	2.76	20.19	28.42		
Ft. Smith	102	74	7	0.00	0.63	2.56	19.71	25.57		
Mena	97	70	6	0.15	0.86	2.54	25.72	34.20		
Ozark	101	72	8	0.48	0.80	2.52	25.41	26.11		
5 Conway	98	70	4	2.10	3.90	2.67	35.22	28.23		
Hot Springs	104	68	4	1.45	2.66	3.08	30.51	33.86		
Little Rock	100	74	7	0.00	0.48	2.93	26.10	29.60		
N Little Rock	101	76	6	0.00	0.61	2.97	26.31	28.61		
6 Brinkley	98	72	6	0.78	0.98	2.52	24.47	30.56		
Marianna	97	71	5	0.02	1.22	2.73	25.06	32.48		
Stuttgart	99	72	5	0.10	1.65	2.19	28.63	28.63		
7 Hope	99	71	4	0.07	0.25	3.51	29.83	31.43		
Texarkana	103	73	7	0.02	0.74	2.35	23.19	27.59		
8 Camden	99	72	6	0.00	1.00	2.92	25.05	31.80		
El Dorado	100	69	4	0.10	0.59	3.22	25.86	33.67		
Warren	99	71	4	0.07	1.55	3.05	30.42	33.63		
9 Eudora	102	71	5	1.30	1.84	2.88	28.95	35.97		
Pine Bluff	100	70	5	0.00	0.17	3.32	29.49	31.19		
Rohwer	98	72	5	0.66	1.04	2.54	29.88	32.16		